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USSR WEATHER AND CROP INFORMATION, 20 - 27 FEBRUARY 1953

Underlined dates refer to days of publication. All temperatures are in degrees centigrade.

21 February

On 20 February, warm weather prevailed in the republics of Central Asia. Noon temperatures ranged between 17-20 degrees above zero. Even during the night, temperatures in this area did not drop below 3-4 degrees above zero. The kolkhozes of Central Asia have planted grain crops and carried out presowing preparation of the fields for cotton and other crops.

It was warm also in the southern Kazakh SSR. Noon temperatures were 18 degrees above zero in Dzhambul and 12 in Kzyl-Orda. During the first half of the day, rain fell in these areas.

Comparatively cool weather prevailed in the Transcaucasus. The temperature in the Tbilisi area did not rise above 6-7 degrees above zero. Light rains were recorded locally in the Transcaucasus.

Daytime temperatures of 4-5 degrees above zero were recorded in the Northern Caucasus, the steppe region of the Crimea, and also in Odessa and Kishinev. Rain fell in the western regions of the Kuban'.

Temperatures ranged from zero to one degree above zero in most of the Ukraine, and Rostovskaya and Stalingradskaya oblasti. Temperatures of 2-3 degrees below zero prevailed in the Belorussian SSR, most areas of the Baltic republics, and some areas of the central chernozem zone. It was 6 degrees below zero in Gorkiy, and 8 below in Kirov, Vologda, and Leningrad.

Comparatively warm weather was recorded in Novosibirsk, Barnaul, and Krasnoyarsk in Western Siberia; noon temperatures rose to zero and above zero. The same type of warm weather was recorded in the northern Kazakh SSR. Temperatures were 8 degrees below zero in the Omsk and Irkutsk areas, 10 below in the Chita area, and 11 below in Blagoveshchensk. Light snow fell in the Khabarovsk area where a noon temperature of 14 degrees below zero was recorded.

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CONFIDENTIAL22 February

On 21 February, unstable weather prevailed in all the European USSR. Compared with previous days, daytime temperatures dropped somewhat in most of the European USSR. The highest temperatures, ranging from 4 to 5 degrees above zero, were recorded at noon in southern Rostovskaya oblast, the southern Ukraine, and the Moldavian SSR. Noon temperatures were one degree above zero in Krasnodar and Simferopol', 2 in Riga, zero in Minsk, and 2 degrees below zero in Kiev. Daytime temperatures ranged between 7 and 8 degrees below zero in all the central chernozem zone, most of the central region, and the western and northern regions of the RSFSR. Approximately the same temperature was recorded in the Urals. Temperatures of 12-13 degrees below zero prevailed in the Far North and the Kuybyshev area.

During the first 12 hours of 21 February, precipitation fell in most of the northern half of the European USSR, the Volga Region, and the Kuban'. During the last 24 hours, the zone of precipitation enveloped almost all the European USSR, except the Moldavian SSR, the western half of the Ukrainian and Belorussian SSRs, the eastern portion of the Northern Caucasus, and the region east of the Volga.

Noon temperatures in Siberia were one degree below zero in Novosibirsk, 3 below in Barnaul, 6 below in Omsk and Krasnoyarsk, and 9 below in Irkutsk.

Compared with previous days, temperatures dropped in the Kazakh SSR and the republics of Central Asia. Daytime temperatures did not exceed 12-15 degrees above zero in most areas and were considerably lower in some areas. Rain fell in many mountain and foothill regions.

24 February

At noon, on 23 February, the coldest temperature was recorded in the northeastern portion of the European USSR. Noon temperatures were 22 degrees below zero in Ust'-Tsil'ma, 17 below in Sverdlovsk, 16 below in Ufa and Chkalov, 15 below in Kazan', 14 below in Arkhangel'sk and Leningrad, 13 below in Kirov and Kuybyshev, 10-11 below in Tambov, Saratov, Voronezh, Orel, Moscow, and Vologda, 6 below in Kursk, and 4 below in Riga and Minsk. Temperatures were 2 degrees above zero in Kiev, 3 in L'vov, Kishinev, and Simferopol', and 4 in Krasnodar.

During the first half of 23 February, precipitation was recorded in some areas of the Belorussian SSR, the northern Ukraine, and the Middle Volga Region. The day before, on 22 February, there was precipitation almost everywhere in the Baltic republics, in all the Ukraine, the Crimea, the Kuban', and many areas of the central chernozem zone.

Comparatively cool weather has prevailed in the Caucasus for the last few days. Noon temperatures ranged between 6 and 8 degrees above zero in the Tbilisi area.

Daytime temperatures ranged between 2 and 4 degrees below everywhere in Siberia and the Far East -- from Khabarovsk to Omsk. It was zero in Irkutsk.

It was warm in the southern portion of Central Asia, where temperatures ranged between 14 to 16 degrees above zero. It was somewhat colder to the north.

25 February

On 24 February, the coldest weather prevailed in the northern and northeastern regions of the European USSR. Noon temperatures were 18 degrees below zero in Kazan' and Sverdlovsk, 14 below in Arkhangel'sk and Ufa, 13 below in

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Tambov, Gor'kiy, and Vologda, 12 below in Leningrad, Kirov, and Chkalov, 10 below in Saratov, Voronezh, and Orel, 8 below in Kursk, Moscow, and Velikiye Luki, 6 below in Riga, 5 below in Minsk, 4 below in Dnepropetrovsk, 2 below in Kiev, and one below in Rostov on the Don. Temperatures were one degree above zero in Krasnodar, 2 in Simferopol' and Kishinev, and 4 in L'vov.

During the first half of the day, rains fell in the Kuban', the Crimea, the southern regions of the Ukraine, and the Moldavian SSR, and snowfalls were recorded in the northwestern portion of the Ukraine and the central chernozem zone.

Warm weather prevailed in the Transcaucasus where daytime temperatures ranged between 10 and 12 degrees above zero.

It was comparatively warm in Siberia and all the northern Kazakh SSR. Daytime temperatures in these areas almost everywhere did not drop lower than 1-2 degrees below zero; in the Omsk, Novosibirsk, Barnaul, and Chita areas, they rose above zero.

Warm weather prevailed in the republics of Central Asia and the southern Kazakh SSR. Noon temperatures were 15 degrees above zero in the Ashkhabad and Stalinabad areas and 17 in the Dzhambul area. Spring field work is being carried out in these areas.

#### 26 February

On 25 February, daytime temperatures dropped almost everywhere in the European USSR compared with previous days. Noon temperatures were 20 degrees below zero in Ufa, 18 below in Arkhangel'sk, 17 below in Vologda, Velikiye Luki, and Chkalov, 15 below in Petrozavodsk, 14 below in Gor'kiy, Kuybyshev, Tambov, and the Sverdlovsk area, 13 below in Syktyvkar and Kirov, 12 below in Voronezh, 10 below in Kursk, Orel, and Minsk, 9 below in Moscow, 7-8 below in Leningrad, Riga, Kiev, Dnepropetrovsk, and Voroshilovgrad, 4 below in L'vov, and 4 degrees above zero in Simferopol', Krasnodar, and Makhachkala.

During the first 12 hours of 25 May, precipitation was recorded mainly in the southern and southeastern Ukraine and Rostovskaya Oblast, and locally in the Kuban' and the Crimea. Snow fell in the eastern Ukraine and Rostovskaya Oblast, and rain in the more southerly regions.

It was somewhat colder in the Omsk area of Siberia where a daytime temperature of 8 degrees below zero was recorded. Further to the east, temperatures ranged between zero and 2 degrees below zero. The highest temperatures recorded for the day were 2-3 degrees above zero. Light snow fell in the Novosibirsk region. Approximately the same type of warm weather as in Siberia prevailed in the northern and central regions of the Kazakh SSR. Noon temperatures in the southern portion of the republic were 6 degrees above zero in the Kzyl-Orda area and 20 in the Dzhambul area.

Noon temperatures in the republics of Central Asia ranged between 16 and 18 degrees above zero. The highest temperature for the day in this area was 23-25 degrees. During the night, temperatures dropped to 3-5 degrees above zero.

#### 27 February

On 26 February, cloudless weather with moderate subzero temperatures prevailed in most of the European USSR. During the first 12 hours of 26 February, snow fell only on the Baltic Sea coast, the southeastern Ukraine, the Crimea, and the Lower Volga Region. The coldest temperature of all -- 16 degrees below zero -- was recorded at noon in the Kazan' area. Other noon temperatures were 14 degrees below zero in Voroshilovgrad, 13 below in Kursk, Orel, Gor'kiy, and Kuybyshev, 12 below in Chkalov, Voronezh, Moscow, and Kirov, 11 below in Saratov

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and Dnepropetrovsk, 10 below in Stalingrad and Tambov, 9 below in Velikiye Luki, Syktyvkar, and Sverdlovsk, 8 below in Rostov on the Don, Kiev, Minsk, Petrozavodsk, and Ust'-Tsil'ma, 6 below in Arkhangel'sk, 5 below in Odessa, 4 below in Kishinev, 2 below in Krasnodar, one below in Nal'chik, zero in Leningrad, and one degree above zero in Riga. Thus, compared with previous days, the drop in temperatures spread far to the south, embracing the entire European USSR. In connection with the drop in temperatures in the northwestern portion of Krasnodarskiy Kray, a snow cover was formed.

Temperatures also dropped in Siberia: it was coldest of all in the Omsk area. This drop in temperatures also spread to the northern Kazakh SSR.

Warm weather prevailed in the southern Kazakh SSR and the republics of Central Asia, although colder than the day before.

#### 28 February

On 27 February, a slight rise in temperatures occurred in the extreme western portion of the European USSR and a sharp rise in the northwestern portion. There was little change in the weather during the day in the rest of the European USSR compared with the previous day. The lowest daytime temperature of 18 degrees below zero was recorded in the Kuybyshev and Orel areas. Other daytime temperatures were 15 degrees below zero in Voronezh and Ufa, 13 below in Kursk, Tambov, and Gor'kiy, 10 below in Saratov, Chkalov, Kirov, and Dnepropetrovsk, 9 below in Sverdlovsk, 8 below in Moscow and Voroshilovgrad, 7 below in Syktyvkar and Stalingrad, 6 below in Rostov on the Don, Kiev, and Ust'-Tsil'ma, 5 below in Odessa, 4 below in Krasnodar and Kishinev, 2 below in Velikiye Luki, one degree below zero in Nal'chik, zero in Simferopol', L'vov, and Minsk, one degree above zero in Leningrad and Arkhangel'sk, and 2 above in Riga.

During the first 12 hours of 27 February, precipitation fell in the extreme western and northwestern European USSR, the Volga Region, and the Black Sea coast of the Caucasus. On 27 February, the continuous snow cover extended approximately from Grodno in the Belorussian SSR, to Pinsk and Zhitomir, to a point southwest of Kirovograd, to Zaporozh'ye, Melitopol', Remontnoye, and Astrakhan'.

Temperatures in the Transcaucasus, compared with preceding days, rose somewhat and reached 10 degrees above zero in the Tbilisi area and 12 in the Yerevan area.

Lower temperatures, recorded the day before in the Omsk and Ural regions of Siberia, spread further to the east and to the south in the Kazakh SSR. Noon temperatures were 13 degrees below zero in Akmolinsk and Semipalatinsk, 16 below in Omsk and Novosibirsk, 13 below in Atyubinsk, 11 below in Barnaul, 6 below in Irkutsk, 3 below in Chita, and about zero in Blagoveshchensk.

In Central Asia, temperatures dropped in the Ashkhabad area where a noon temperature of 10 degrees above zero prevailed, compared with 16 degrees the day before. Noon temperatures were 16 degrees above zero in Stalinabad, and 14 above in Tashkent.

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